

## Message Text

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ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-15

ACDA-19 AEC-11 OMB-01 EUR-25 RSR-01 /140 W

----- 129954

P R 201015Z AUG 73

FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6127

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY SAIGON

AMEMBASSY SEOUL

AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

CINCPAC CAMP H.M. SMITH, HAWAII

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CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR JA

SUBJECT: DSP MISSION TO ROK AND SOUTHEAST ASIA

SUMMARY: DSP MISSION LEFT AUG 20 FOR TWO-WEEK FACT-FINDING TOUR OF ROK, SOUTH VIETNAM, THAILAND, SINGAPORE, INDONESIA AND HONG KONG. WHILE CONTACTS WILL BE WITH HOST GOVERNMENT OFFICALS AND OTHER POLITICAL OBSERVERS, GROUP MAY REQUEST BRIEFING FORM AMEMBASSY SAIGON. TRIP APPEARS TO BE PRIMARILY DSP IMAGE-BUILDER, WITH EFFORT TO GAIN FAVORABLE PUBLICITY IN ROK AND RE KIM KIDNAP CASE ADDED POSSIBILITY.

1. JAPAN DEMOCRATIC SOCIALIST PARTY (DSP) FACT-FINDING AND GOODWILL MISSION LEFT TOKYO AUG 20 FOR TWO-WEEK TOUR O ROK (AUG 20-22), SOUTH VIETNAM (AUG 22-24), THAILAND (AUG 24-26), SINGAPORE (AUG 26-28), INDONESIA (AUG 28-  
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SEPT. 1) AND HONG KONG (SEPT 1-3). REPORTED PURPOSE IS

TO STUDY DEVELOPMENTS IN THESE AREAS SUBSEQUENT TO VIETNAM CEASEFIRE AND US-JAPAN SUMMIT MEETING OF JULY 31-AUG 1.

2. DELEGATION IS LED BY IKKO KASUGA, PARTY CHAIRMAN AND MEMBER OF DIET LOWER HOUSE. OTHER MEMBERS ARE: TAKEZO WATANABE, MEMBER OF DIET LOWER HOUSE; TAKUJI KURIBAYASHI; MEMBER OF DIET UPPER HOUSE; KEIGO OUCHI, DIRECTOR DSP EDUCATION AND PROPAGANDA BUREAU; AND SUSUMU YASUI, KASUGA'S PERSONAL SECRETARY.

3. PARTICIPANTS PLAN TALKS WITH GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS, POLITICAL PARTY LEADERS, JOURNALISTS AND OTHERS. THEY EXPECT TO FOCUS PRIMARILY ON (A) ASIAN SECURITY PROBLEMS, (B) GOJ ASSISTANCE FOR INDOCHINA ECONOMIC RECONSTRUCTION AND REHABILITATION; AND (C) ECONOMIC AND CULTURAL EXCHANGES. ACCORDING PRESS, IN ROK THEY ALSO EXPECT TO ASK GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS TO PERMIT OPPOSITION LEADER KIM DAE JUNG TO RETURN TO JAPAN (APPARENTLY TO PROVIDE TESTIMONY REGARDING RECENT KIDNAP EPISODE IN TOKYO). IN CONVERSATION WITH DSP OFFICIAL, EMBOFFS ALSO LEARNED MISSION IS ESPECIALLY INTERESTED IN IMAGE OF JAPANESE BUSINESSMEN IN THAILAND. THEY MIGHT ALSO WISH TO TAKE UP WITH HIM REMARKS MADE BY SINGAPORE PM LEE TO EFFECT HE WOULD WELCOME COMBINED MSDF-SEVENTH FLEET OPERATION IN SEA WATERS.

4. FOR SAIGON: DSP INDICATED TO US THAT GROUP MIGHT SEEK AMEMBASSY SAIGON BRIEFING REGARDING POST-CEASEFIRE SECURITY SITUATION AND TRUCE ENFORCEMENT. PARTY FAILED TO CONFIRM REQUEST HERE. HOWEVER, WE UNDERSTAND GROUP'S ADVANCE MAN, ROO WATANABE (DSP INTERNATIONAL DEPT. DIRECTOR) IS NOW IN SAIGON AND MAY HAVE INITIATED BRIEFING REQUEST THROUGH JAPANESE EMBASSY. AS REPS OF MODERATE OPPOSITION PARTY AND ONLY OPPOSITION PARTY NOT DEMANDING IMMEDIATE ABOLITION OF MUTUAL SECURITY TREATY (FAVOR PHASED REDUCTION AND RETENTION NUCLEAR UMBRELLA), WE BELIEVE WHATEVER ASSISTANCE EMBASSY SAIGON COULD PROVIDE GROUP WOULD BE HELPFUL TO US INTERESTS.

5. COMMENT: EXACT PURPOSE OF TRIP AT THIS TIME IS NOT CLEAR. LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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HOWEVER, IT IS PROBABLY IN LARGE PARTY EFFORT TO REFURBISH IMAGE OF DSP WHICH HAS BEEN IN LONG DECLINE AT POLLS BY DEMONSTRATING THAT IT IS ONGOING POLITICAL ENTERPRISE CAPABLE OF MOVEMENT IN INTERNATIONAL CIRCLES LIKE OTHER PARTIES. DSP OFFICIALS HAVE TOLD EMBOFFS THAT PARTY IS TENTATIVELY PLANNING TRIP TO SOVIET UNION IN FALL AFTER PRIMUM TANAKA'S VISIT THERE - FOR APPARENTLY SAME REASON

6. DSP REPS FIND THEMSELVES IN DELICATE SITUATION RE ROK  
VISIT SINCE THEY ARE GOING THERE IN RESPONSE TO INVITATION  
BY ROK PRIMIN KIM EXTENDED LONG BEFORE KIM KIDNAP CASE.

OBVIOUSLY THE DO NOT WANT TO ANTAGONIZE KOREAN HOSTS.  
AT SAME TIME, BECAUSE OF HIGH JAPANESE INTEREST IN CASE  
AND PAST DSP ASSOCIATION WITH ROK OPPOSITION GROUP,  
THEY MOST PROBABLY WILL SEEK TO TAKE ADVANTAGE  
OF UNIQUE OPPORTUNITY TO SPEAK DIRECTLY TO ROK OFFICIALS  
AS SPOKESMEN FOR JAPNESE REFORMIST MOVEMENT.  
SHOESMITH

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**Draft Date:** 20 AUG 1973  
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**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**TAGS:** PFOR, JA, KS  
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